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LETTER DATED 19 SEPTEMBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward to you the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated 18 September 1991.

I request that this letter, together with the attached statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement dated 18 September 1991 of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The General Assembly of the United Nations, at its forty-sixth session, has unanimously decided to admit the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to membership in the United Nations amid the consentient support and approval from the participating countries.

This is a clear indication of the sincere desire of the States Members of the United Nations to respect the sovereignty and dignity of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and closely cooperate with our Republic towards the fulfilment of the common cause of mankind. This shows that the ideals of the foreign policy of independence, peace and friendship consistently maintained by our Republic correctly reflect contemporary trends and assume universal significance in developing international relationship.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people express their profound thanks to all the States Members of the United Nations for their support and welcome of our country to membership in the United Nations.

Today, the aspiration and desire of the peoples of the world to build a new, free and peaceful world are on the rise and there is an ever-increasing demand to enhance the functions and role of the United Nations.

The United Nations is faced with the mission of the times to give a powerful impetus to the current demands of history and materialize them.

In order to build a new world as aspired to by mankind, the unequal international order must be dissolved in all fields of politics, economy and culture for the establishment of a new equitable international order and the democratization of international society and world politics be realized so that all countries and nations may be able to enjoy independent and equal rights as equal members of the international community.

Membership in the United Nations has enabled our Republic to develop relations of friendship and cooperation with a greater number of countries in the world based on the principles of independence, equality and mutual benefits and to strive more vigorously for world peace and security.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will, as in the past, continue to respect the Charter of the United Nations, take an active part in the activities of the Organization under the Charter and thus fulfil its duties and role as a State Member of the United Nations.

Now that a decision has been reached to admit our Republic to membership in the United Nations, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of

Korea hopes that the remnants of the past history which existed between our country and the United Nations until we were admitted to membership will be properly eliminated and that the United Nations will make its due contribution to the just solution of the question of the reunification of Korea.

Our Republic has joined the United Nations, but there is no change in its fundamental policy of reunifying the country and the nation into one Korea.

As a matter of fact, our Republic desired since its inception to join the United Nations.

We could not but consider the issue of membership in the United Nations in the context of favouring reunification under the circumstances that the country and the nation remain temporarily divided, and therefore maintained the position that the north and south of Korea should enter the United Nations under the name of a single State after reunification through confederation or seek one-seat membership if they wanted to join the United Nations before reunification.

As attempts have become apparent recently to perpetuate and legalize the division of the country and nation by capitalizing on the international leverage of membership in the United Nations, we have taken the decisive measure to join the United Nations in an effort to avert serious consequences arising therefrom.

We consider that a way should be paved to bring about reunification earlier in accordance with the respective membership in the United Nations of the north and south of Korea.

No attempts should be allowed to misuse membership in the United Nations for the purpose of perpetuating the country's division into "two Koreas".

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea believes that the idea of reunifying the country by confederation, based on one nation and one State, two systems and two Governments is the most fair, above-board and reasonable proposal at the present time which is acceptable to anyone.

This is the proposal for peaceful reunification that permits neither "prevalence over communism" and "communization" nor northward invasion and "southward invasion".

This proposal is in agreement with the noble purpose of the United Nations, committed to its mission of safeguarding peace and justice in international relations.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people are confident that their just national desire will enjoy support and sympathy from the States Members of the United Nations and that the day is sure to come when a reunified Korea will take one seat at the United Nations, although the north and the south join the United Nations respectively today.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea declares that it will actively strive, as a fully-fledged State Member of the United Nations, to join all other Member States in efforts to safeguard world peace, promote the sound development of international relations and expand and develop friendship and cooperation among nations.

Pyongyang, 18 September 1991